



ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT STATEMENT

Mountain View Corridor EIS Alternatives Rollout Representative Comments

UDOT Project No. *SP-0067(3)0
Final for web site: Nov. 11, 2004

Role of Public Input

Public input is an important part of the Mountain View Corridor Environmental Impact Statement process. Comments from residents have helped the project team identify potential transportation solutions and community values to consider. Public input increased dramatically when the eight remaining Mountain View Corridor transportation concepts were unveiled in July 2004. The team has reviewed each comment and is working to consider the issues raised in the transportation decision-making process.

Common Themes

The numbered items below represent some common opinions reflected in the broad spectrum of ideas submitted by local residents so far. While the list below does not represent every comment, it does demonstrate repeated comment themes within the large body of nearly 1,000 public comments. The quote following each theme was pulled from an actual comment to illustrate how the idea was expressed. *These opinions do not represent the views or positions of the project team, but of the people who submitted comments.*

Seeking Balance

As is demonstrated below, many of the comments contradict one another, making it impossible for the project team to follow every suggestion and implement every idea. We ask for your understanding as we work toward the most balanced final recommendation.

Salt Lake County

1. Push the proposed freeway farther west where it will have less impact on existing communities

"What is wrong with going further west? If there is a freeway available, that is where people will go. There are fewer people and development going on there - the new freeway should go there."

2. Build the freeway on U-111, which already exists

"You should keep going to U-111 instead, people will drive further west. You moved it west 12 blocks [from 5800 West], move it another 12 blocks."

3. An east-west freeway is needed more than a north-south freeway

"I don't understand why you are putting in another north/south freeway instead of an east/west one. It seems to me that people out west could use an east/west freeway and transit facility."

4. Avoid building a freeway close to elementary schools, ensure the safety of children

"What about the schools. Are there plans to balance the schools' needs, child safety, and transportation needs?"

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5. Don't "sandwich" residents in a closely enclosed area between a transit way on 5600 West and a freeway on 5800 West

"I prefer the freeway concept on 7200 West because the 5600/5800 West concept would unfairly impact our and other neighborhoods just west of 5600 West by enclosing them within a two block strip of land."

6. Make Bangerter into a freeway (remove the stoplights)

"Just use Bangerter Highway and turn it into a freeway. It is less cost and less intrusive."

7. Don't build another Bangerter-like road with stoplights

"Putting traffic lights on Bangerter was a big mistake. It should have been a freeway from the beginning. Now you have to build more freeways, which is okay, but no traffic lights on it PLEASE."

8. Don't build at 5600 West or 5800 West—it's too close to Bangerter

"I think that you should consider that putting [a freeway or transit] near 5600 West is overbearing. There is...close access to Bangerter here already. The freeway should be placed further west for access for people in that area as well."

9. Build the freeway on 5800 West, in accordance with previous plans

"The 7200 West option would be a poor choice because it would require the costly purchase and demolition of more homes than along the 5600/5800 West alternative, which is already wider. Plans are already in process for 5600/5800 West. That work would have to be redone, at a high cost, for 7200 West."

10. Build the freeway on 7200 West, it will impact less people

"I prefer the 7200 West alternatives because it is further away from residential areas and won't split up residential areas."

11. 7200 West is too far west for a freeway and people won't use it

"The 7200 West route swings too far west from the rest of the highway. I think this makes that option less attractive for drivers who wish to connect to I-80 or SR-201."

12. This study has already impacted home values and will continue to do so. Please give details on property acquisition and selling options.

"I am concerned about my property value. I am concerned about the meaning of 'fair market value' and feel that now you have made the alternative public, my home value is damaged."

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13. Avoid building over West Valley City's Sugar Plum subdivision

"I live in the Sugar Plum development where they have the nicest homes I have ever seen in West Valley. It is a very close community and the freeway would be parallel to our neighborhood. Most people in this neighborhood are 2nd time homebuyers and 99% of them planned to stay. We do not want a freeway next door."

14. Build mass transit along with the freeway

"I like that you are addressing the transportation issues associated with population and development growth in the western half of the valley. I also like the inclusion of public transportation options in the plan."

15. Transportation options for those on the west side are not equal to the options for east side residents

"Use U-111 and build a west side belt route just like the east side one. Then it would circle the entire valley."

16. A freeway at 7200 West will unfairly discriminate against Magna and geographically separate it from the rest of the Salt Lake Valley

"We need N/S transportation alternatives on the west side, but the 7200 West option could negatively impact Magna's collective self-confidence. This proposal will add geographical isolation to the existing political isolation. The 'other side of the freeway' mentality will be permanently entrenched as a result."

17. Confusion about how the "power corridor" will be converted to a freeway

"How will you deal with the gas lines and utilities in the power corridor?"

18. Perception that residents don't really have a voice. Fear that the comment period has officially ended and the decision is already made.

"I hope this input really does make a difference and that plans are not already set."

19. Safety concerns related to use of the Alliant Tech property

"There is huge concern about you building a freeway through ATK now that they are working on Minuteman Missiles...If there were a major explosion here, people would be...seriously injured."

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Utah County

1. General dislike for the "Arterials Concept"

"The traffic problem will be worse if you build the arterials solution. Avoid Lehi Main Street. Go out past Redwood Road to the west and then head to Salt Lake to solve the problem."

2. Avoid building a freeway close to elementary schools, ensure the safety of children

"I am very upset about any plan to build any major road in my back yard on 1000 South in Lehi. We do not want the noise or congestion or loss of our neighborhood. There is an elementary school nearby as well. Kids will have to cross the major road to get to school or be bussed elsewhere."

3. Extend the freeway to the west of Utah Lake

"For future needs, I would like to see the freeway system include a complete stretch on the west side of Utah Lake. Traffic flow is a prime concern. Utah County is continuing to grow. I don't see that changing. I think the freeway system needs to serve current needs, but it needs to meet the need of the next 25 years too."

4. Yes to the "Southern Freeway Concept," but also build both additional connections at 2100 North and Porter Rockwell

"I don't like any of the Utah County alternatives as they are. You should do the Southern Freeway with Porter Rockwell, 2100 North, and the extra road to Saratoga Springs for good traffic flow."

5. Don't build the "Southern Freeway Concept," it will cut Lehi in half and does not match Lehi City's master plans

"I do not like the Southern Freeway because there are significant wetland issues and existing agricultural and residential development in Lehi. Lehi City has identified three corridors on its Master Transportation Plan and has been working to obtain the right of way for these future roads. This proposed freeway does not conform to their plans."

6. Concern regarding congestion at new interchanges

"This is a major issue that needs to be resolved. All of these concepts are shortsighted. They each end at the Pleasant Grove/Lindon area. This is the most congested freeway area in all of Utah County. Dumping all of that traffic on to I-15 at this point will only create additional problems."

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7. Traffic and congestion are already commonplace. Please build as soon as possible.

"I am really concerned that the project will not happen fast enough. There are gridlock conditions already on my commute from Saratoga Springs to Pleasant Grove. I believe the area will be impassable by 2006."

8. Avoid construction and increased traffic flow on Lehi Main Street

"Part of the solution here is to keep all of the traffic from clogging Lehi roads. Traffic should be routed outside the perimeters of Lehi. For Saratoga Springs the southern arterial is perfect. For Eagle Mountain, the northern road and freeway are plenty. Lehi is a quieter place and centrally routed roads are not necessary. Improving Main Street in Lehi should only be done for public transportation."

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